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Message Text

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14
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 NIC-01 OMB-01 AID-20 IO-13 NEA-10 RSR-01 /169 W
---------- 125967
P R 181700Z JUL 73
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3940
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SAIGON

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EO 11652N/A
TAGS: PFOR SG VS
SUBJ: SENEGAL RECOGNIZES PRG

PARIS ALSO FOR USDEL JEC PARIS

REF: SAIGON 12867
DAKAR 2783

1. SUMMARY: MEETING WITH GOS PROCLAIMED BY GVN PRESS STATEMENT CONTAINED REFTEL 1 HAD NOT TAKEN PLACE WHEN STATEMENT REACHED DAKAR, AND

GOS PREDICTABLY REACTED BY PUBLICLY AFFIRMING ITS RECOGNITION OF PRG;

IT WAS A CLUMSY PIECE OF DIPLOMACY. END SUMMARY.

2. GVN CHARGE PHAM TRONG NHAN GAVE EMBOFF PRESENT STATE OF PLAY IN AFTERMATCH RECOGNITION OF PRG. NHAN SAID HE HAD HAD UNOFFICIAL DISCUSSION WITH FONMIN DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS YOUSSOU SYLLA, WHO IS ONLY PERSON APPROACHING A POLICY MAKER IN THAT WEAK ORGANIZATION, IN WHICH NHAN PROPOSED THAT GOS. FOLLOWING ITS PUBLIC RECOGNITION OF PRG, LET IT GO AT THAT AND FAIL TO NAME REPRESENTATIVE TO PRG OR TO
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ALLOW LATTER ANY REPRESENTATION IN DAKAR. IN MEANTIME, AMBASSADOR

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DESIGNATE DANG NGOCIYRAN, WOULD COME ALONG FROM ANKARA AND BE DULY ACCREDITED HERE. NHAN SAYS SYLLA THOUGHT GOS WOULD GO ALONG WITH THIS PRECEDURE.

3. HOWEVER, NHAN'S URGING TO GVN THAT THIS COURSE OF ACTION BE FOLLOWED, AVOIDING ANY PUBLIC POLEMICS ON WISDOM OR APPROPRIATENESS OF THE GOS RECOGNITION, WAS OVERRULED WHEN FONMIN LAM LEFT TO RUN FOR SENATE. INSTEAD, HIS REPLACEMENT FORWARDED TO NHAN A CLOSELY REASONED LETTER TO GOS STATING EXHAUSTIVELY THE JURIDICAL REASONS WHY PRG SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED BY GOS. THIS LUOTER, WHICH CONTRAVENED NHAN'S VIEW THAT THE MATTER BE TREATED AS A POLITICAL REALITY RATHER THAN A LEGAL DEBATE, ARRIVED AT THE END OF LAST WEEK, AND NHAN WAS UNABLE TO GET AN IMMEDIATE APPOINTMENT TO DELIVER IT TO THE GOS. EARLIEST APPOINTMENT HE COULD GET WAS FOR MORNING OF 17TH,

JUST PRIOR TO WEEKLY CABINET MEETING.

4. UNFORTUNATELY, IN MEANTIME GVN FONMIN SPOKESMAN BLEW IT BY JULY 16 ANNOUNCEMENT THAT DEMARCHE HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE, WHICH IT HADN'T AND SUBSTANCE OF GVN LETTER. ACCORDINGLY IN WEEKLY CABINET MEETING ON 17TH, PRESIDENT SENGHOR ISSUED PUBLIC STATEMENT REAFFIRMING GOS RECOGNITION OF PRG.

5. LE SOLEIL ON 18TH CARRIES STATEMENT: "IT IS KNOWN THAT A DESPATCH FROM SAIGON MENTIONED ON MONDAY A MESSAGE THAT THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ADDRESSED TO THE SENEGALESE GOVERNMENT TO PROTEST AGAINST THIS RECOGNITION AND THAT INNER QUOTE THE SENEGALESE REACTION SEEMED TO BE FAVORABLE TO THE THESIS DEVELOPED BY SAIGON END INNER QUOTE. HERE THEN IS A STRAIGHTENING OUT OF THESE IDEAS AND A CUTTING SHORT OF THESE SPECULATIONS END QUOTE.

6. COMMENT: NHAN SAYS HE EXPECTS TO BE CALLED TO SAIGON ON CONSULTATION WITHIN A WEEK. HE OPINED, WITH WHICH WE HEARTILY AGREE, THAT ALMOST NO AURSE OF ACTION COULD BE BETTER CALCULATED TO GET GOS BACK UP AND MAKE WHOLE AFFAIR A MATTER OF FACE THAN THE GVN LETTER, AND OF COURSE IT WAS WORSE TO PUBLICIZE IT BEFORE

DELIVERY. EVEN SYLLA ADMITTED IT WAS MASTERPIECE OF LEGAL DRAFTING, BUT SAID THE AFFAIR WAS NOT LEGALBUT POLITICAL. NHAN CITED CASE OF MOROCCO, WHICH RECOGNIZED NORTH VIETNAM TEN YEARS AGO BUT WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PERSUADED BEHIND SCENES NEVER TO EXCHANGE DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION WITH HANOI. HE ALSO FELT IT PLACED AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE TRAN IN UNHAPPY POSITION TO START ASSIGNMENT, WHEN, AS AND IF HE REACHES DAKAR. SINCE THIS SITUATION MAY BE ON POINT OF ARISING IN OTHER COUNTRIES, IT IS HOPED THAT GVN WILL LEARN MORE FINESSE IN ITS REACTIONS TO SINGLY UNIMPORTANT BUT NUMEROUS LDCS WHO ARE SUBJECT TO PRG BLANDISHMENTS.
CLARK

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Draft Date: 18 JUL 1973
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Reference: 73 SAIGON 12867
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